

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 485

To appropriate funds for the purpose of implementing the compromise between the Forest Service and timber contractors operating in the Vallecitos sustained-yield unit, New Mexico, in order to preserve large diameter old growth pine trees located in the unit.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 21, 1997

Mr. RICHARDSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations

A BILL

To appropriate funds for the purpose of implementing the compromise between the Forest Service and timber contractors operating in the Vallecitos sustained-yield unit, New Mexico, in order to preserve large diameter old growth pine trees located in the unit.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FUNDS FOR PRESERVATION OF OLD GROWTH**

4 **PINES, VALLECITOS SUSTAINED-YIELD UNIT,**
5 **NEW MEXICO.**

6 (a) APPROPRIATION.—There are hereby appropriated
7 to the Secretary of Agriculture, out of any funds in the

1 Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$250,000, to be
2 used by the Secretary to compensate the approved respon-
3 sible operators conducting timber harvesting in the
4 Vallecitos sustained-yield unit, New Mexico, established
5 pursuant to the Act of March 29, 1944 (commonly known
6 as the Sustained-Yield Forest Management Act; 16 U.S.C.
7 583 et seq.), for the loss of wages and profits that the
8 approved responsible operators will incur as a result of the
9 settlement described in subsection (b).

10 (b) SETTLEMENT TO PRESERVE OLD GROWTH.—

11 The settlement referred to in this section is a settlement
12 between the Forest Service and the approved responsible
13 operators of the Vallecitos sustained-yield unit, under
14 which the operators—

15 (1) agree to leave uncut and unharvested all
16 large diameter old growth pine trees located in units
17 1, 2, 9, 15, and 16 of the La Manga timber sale;
18 and

19 (2) release all other claims that the operators
20 may have for harvesting the timber in these specified
21 units.

22 (c) CONDITION ON PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION.—

23 The Secretary of Agriculture may not make any payment
24 under subsection (a) unless and until all of the approved
25 responsible operators of the Vallecitos sustained-yield unit

- 1 are parties to, and agree to comply with, the settlement
- 2 described in subsection (b).

